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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: James P. Elia)
SERIAL NO.: 09/064,000) EXAMINER: Nicholas D. Lucchesi
FILED: April 21, 1998)
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INSTALLATION OF DENTAL IMPLANT) GROUP ART UNIT: 3732))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This Amendment reflects a telephone conversation between Examiner Nicholas D.

Lucchesi and the undersigned attorney on September 3, 2002. Applicant believes that entry of such amendment will place the instant application in condition for allowance.

It is pointed out that the cancellation of pending claims 7-191 and the substitution of new claims 192-375 therefore do not alter the scope of the claimed invention in any substantive manner. Rather, such claim substitution follows the Examiner's suggestion made during the April 10, 2002 interview; namely, that such claims be placed in a format containing more positive method steps. Instead of amending the pending claims, a new set of claims was provided for the convenience of the Examiner. Accordingly, no change in claim coverage was intended by the submission of new claims 192-375, and the amendment was not made for reasons related to patentability.